

REMARKS

Pending claims 21-23 were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 24-39 are hereby submitted for the Examiner's consideration. No new matter has been added.

No marked up version of the claims are submitted since all of previously pending claims were cancelled. 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

Applicants enclose a check in the amount of \$412.00 to cover the cost for filing with an additional independent claim in excess of three. No additional fee is believed necessary for entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment with new claims 24-39. However, if any additional fees are necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Applicants believe these new claims 24-39 are patentable and in condition for allowance. These claims are supported in the specification (e.g., pp. 16-24), the examples (e.g., Example 2), and the original claims as filed.

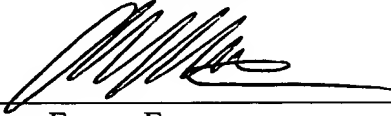
Furthermore, Applicants are not aware of any prior art that has all of the elements of the claims or which in proper combination with other prior art would provide all of the elements of the claims. For example, none of the prior art teaches a method of detecting the presence of a chemical moiety, a method of generating electrochemiluminescence, or a method of detecting an analyte of interest wherein an electrochemical potential is applied which oxidizes the agent, but not the chemical moiety as required by the pending claims 24-39.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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